A32752
5/25/82

trends

ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
1920 L STREET, N.W. · WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 · 202/293-4196

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, May 13, 1982 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended May 8 totaled an estimated 16.3 billion ton-miles, 1.6 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today. The 1981 week included the sixth week of the coal miners' strike.

Cumulative volume for the first 19 weeks of 1982 was an estimated 306.3 billion ton-miles, 9.1 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended May 8 totaled 378,617 cars, 0.9 percent below 1981 and 2.8 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 18.2 percent in the East due to the 1981 coal strike, but were down 5.0 percent in the South and 9.3 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1981, 17 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, grain loadings were up 2,422 cars, or 11.4 percent. Seventeen of the 21 groups declined from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended May 1, totaled 37,055 cars, up an estimated 15.6 percent from the corresponding week of 1981, and 68,052 trailers and/or containers, 9.9 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first eighteen weeks of the year was 623,698 cars, 8.8 percent higher than last year, and 1,109,782 trailers and/or containers, up 6.2 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 5/8/82:

| | Loadings in Week ended May 8,1982 | | Change from Corresponding Week 1981 | | | Change from Preceding Week | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cars | | Cars | Percent | | Cars | Percent |
| Grain | 23,746 | I | 2,422 | 11.4 | I | 722 | 3.1 |
| Other farm products | 4,185 | I | 60 | 1.5 | D | 594 | 12.4 |
| Metallic ores | 19,082 | D | 12,504 | 39.6 | D | 1,701 | 8.2 |
| Coal | 118,095 | I | 56,941 | 93.1 | D | 2,118 | 1.8 |
| Crushed stone, gravel and sand | 10,041 | D | 4,270 | 29.8 | I | 435 | 4.5 |
| Nonmetallic minerals | 10,531 | D | 3,927 | 27.2 | D | 1,026 | 8.9 |
| Grain mill products | 11,669 | D | 2,824 | 19.5 | D | 618 | 5.0 |
| Food and kindred products | 13,507 | D | 2,016 | 13.0 | D | 153 | 1.1 |
| Primary forest products | 15,756 | D | 3,529 | 18.3 | I | 363 | 2.4 |
| Lumber and wood products except furniture | 5,833 | D | 2,886 | 33.1 | D | 702 | 10.7 |
| Pulp, paper and allied products | 16,596 | D | 3,058 | 15.6 | D | 862 | 4.9 |
| Chemicals and allied products | 24,450 | D | 3,379 | 12.1 | D | 428 | 1.7 |
| Petroleum products | 4,672 | D | 634 | 11.9 | I | 27 | 0.6 |
| Stone, clay and glass products | 10,032 | D | 4,680 | 31.8 | D | 22 | 0.2 |
| Coke | 4,992 | D | 2,315 | 31.7 | D | 112 | 2.2 |
| Metals and products | 10,269 | D | 6,536 | 38.9 | D | 1,485 | 12.6 |
| Motor vehicles and equipment | 17,078 | D | 2,363 | 12.2 | D | 119 | 0.7 |
| Waste and scrap materials | 8,454 | D | 4,973 | 37.0 | D | 240 | 2.8 |
| Forwarder and shipper association traffic | 8,690 | D | 1,204 | 12.2 | D | 200 | 2.2 |
| All other carloads | 40,723 | D | 1,755 | 4.1 | D | 2,066 | 4.8 |
| LCL traffic | 216 | I | 23 | 11.9 | D | 10 | 4.4 |
| Total Cars Loaded | 378,617 | D | 3,407 | 0.9 | D | 10,909 | 2.8 |
| Corresponding week of 1981 | 382,024 | | | | | | |

| | 1982 | 1981 | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total Cars Loaded (19 weeks) | 7,097,074 | 7,921,655 | D 10.4 |
| Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions): | | | |
| 18 Weeks cumulative | 290.0 | 320.3 | D 9.5 |
| Week ended May 8 | 16.3 | 16.6 | D 1.6 |
| 19 Weeks cumulative | 306.3 | 336.8 | D 9.1 |

#

AARt-051382